

## Nonsense Rhymes and Funny Song Greet Debutante

Authors and Poets of Society  
Help Entertain at Event for  
Miss B. W. Merchant.

Several debutantes participated in a satire upon themselves at a luncheon given yesterday by Mrs. Lewis B. Woodruff in her home, 14 East Sixty-sixth street, for Miss Betty Wolcott, debutante daughter of Mrs. Huntington W. Merchant. The hostess called it a cafe chantant luncheon.

The room where the tables were laid was decorated with trailing laurels, wisteria, and pumpkins that had been brought from the Woodruff farm, Ash Grove, in Litchfield, Conn. Each table had a humorous "reserved" sign painted by Miss Merchant, who is an artist, and each table was presided over by a celebrity representing artists, poets, dramatists and authors. The hostess, herself an author, had the place cards for each guest one of her autographed books.

The debutantes present besides Miss Merchant were Misses Suzanne V. du Vivier, Katherine E. Morris, Molly Van Coggswell, Ella S. Parish, Eleanor Towne, Kathleen Crawford, Virginia Fox, Georgia L. Wells, Juliet Chisholm, Dorothy Newton Sharp, Carolyn W. Perriard, Margaret W. Davidson, Julia Placks, Dorothy D. M. Harris, Harriet Camac and Katharine Hurd.

The satire, which came with the coffee, was in the form of a musical skit arranged by the hostess and called "The New Year's Eve." Miss Grace G. Drayton contributed a preface with original carols made on the spot of the debutantes about the tables. Margaret Wildermar, Carolyn Wells, Gailin and Blanche Schoenacker, Wagstaff collaborated with the hostess in writing the book of the satire on the modern debutante, which the guests sang to the tune of "The Good Old Summer Time." Margaret Wildermar as "Mrs. Grundy," Carolyn Wells as "Mrs. Chaperone," Dana Gailin as "Miss Information" and Mrs. Wagstaff as the personification of modern "Society" showed in their verses little consideration of the modern debutante in comparing her with her more demure sister of an earlier social period.

Another debutante luncheon was given yesterday in the Pull Mall room of the Ritz-Carlton by Mrs. Antonio Ponvert of 410 Park avenue for her niece, Miss Constance Nash, daughter of Mr. Warren Byrner Nash. The other guests were Misses Audrey T. Sherman, Elizabeth Lee Dodge, Peggy Stout, Catherine Waetjen, Florence Knox, Betsy Flag, Clara Workman, Katherine De Lancey Thorne, Dorothy Clements, Wilmer Kohler, Dorothy Hodgman, Genevieve Cawthra, Grace Knox, Isabel Rockefeller, Stephanie Rasmus, Adrienne Ogden, Cynthia Birelow, Wanda Matthews, Martha Otley, Mary Hepburn, Margaret Hughes, Odette Feder, Marguerite Doubleday, Helen L. S. Trevor, Geraldine Thompson, Katherine De Lancey, Camilla Livingston, May Wistar Morris and Katharine Bliss.

## TALK BOXING AT LUNCHEON.

Guests at Colony Club Hear of Marshall Stillman Movement.

Through the courtesy of a member of the Colony Club there was a luncheon there yesterday, given by the committee that has projected the boxing bouts to be held in the Hotel Commodore next Tuesday night under the auspices of the Marshall Stillman or Gansinger Movement. Mr. Alpheus Gansinger, president of the movement, and the Marshall Stillman Athletic Club in 125th street, explained the aims of the organization were to get boys and young men out of the backwash of the city by furnishing them centers of amusement and giving free instruction in boxing.

The Rev. Dr. Herbert Shipman and Mr. John Vernon Bouvier, Jr., explained the details to members of the women's auxiliary, who include Mrs. Vincent Astor, Mrs. Henry Potter Russell, Mrs. J. Thos. Funder, Mrs. Winthrop Russell, Mrs. Abbott Meredith, Mrs. Henry E. Mallin and Mrs. Henry Clarke Coe. A result of the luncheon will be the appointment of a young women's committee that will assist at the Tuesday night entertainment, which will mark the introduction of boxing by professionals as a ballroom diversion. The bouts will be given in a portable ring that Mr. John McE. Bowman has given to the movement.

## Mrs. C. T. Ditzler Becomes Bride of E. G. Schermerhorn

Couple Will Go to Bermuda to  
Pass Their Honey-  
moon.

In St. Stephen's Church, West Sixty-ninth street, yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Charlotte Tidemann Ditzler, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Tidemann of this city, was married to Mr. Edward Gilbert Schermerhorn, a son of Mr. George Stevens Schermerhorn of this city. The ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Nathan A. Seagle, rector of the church, and by the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stiles, was witnessed by a small gathering of friends and relatives.

The bride entered the church with Mr. Arthur S. Leland, a friend of her family, who gave her away. She wore a traveling costume of gray cloth, with hat to correspond. Mr. Arthur Schermerhorn was best man for his brother, Mr. George Schermerhorn, another brother; Messrs. Paul Gilbert Thebaud, Louis Hays Dos Passos and Charles H. Stout.

Mr. and Mrs. Schermerhorn will sail soon for Bermuda, and on their return will live at the Schermerhorn Arms, 67 West Fifty-second street. Mr. Schermerhorn is in charge of State military affairs under Gov. Sulzer.

## GRIMM-WURZBACH.

In the Hotel Astor last evening Miss Ruth Amelia Wurzbach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Wurzbach, was married to Mr. Paul M. Grimm, son of Mrs. J. P. Grimm, by the Rev. Dr. Gordon B. Kierstead, pastor of the Alexander Avenue Baptist Church.

The bride was attended by Miss Louise Warr and Miss Beatrice W. Wurzbach, her sister. The best man was Mr. Charles R. Gialor of Brooklyn. The ushers were Mr. Louis D. Riedel and Dr. Frederick Wurzbach, Jr. The bride's father is president of the Bronx Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, vice-president of the Board of Trade and chairman of the board of the Bronx National Bank.

## VOUGHT-WILLEY.

Announcement was made in New York yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. William Jefferson Lewis of Pittsburgh of the marriage of their daughter, Mrs. Eno Lewis Willey, to Mr. Chance Melton Vought of this city last Saturday in St. Thomas's Church. Upon their return from the wedding trip on January 1, Mr. Vought and his bride will live at 440 Park avenue.

## ENGAGEMENTS ANNOUNCED.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Florence A. van Zelm, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Louis van Zelm, New Rochelle, to Ensign Robert Sprague, U. S. N., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Sprague of 241 West End avenue, New York, and Sharon, Conn. Miss van Zelm's father is vice-president of the New York Life Insurance and Trust Company. Ensign Sprague was graduated from the Naval Academy in 1919. He saw service during the war in foreign waters and is at present stationed on the battleship Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Brown of Perth Amboy, N. J., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Agnes Brown, to Mr. Alfred Mathiasen of Keyport, N. J., son of the late Karl Mathiasen. He was graduated from Princeton in 1917 and served in the Naval Aviation Corps during the war.

## MRS. MANVILLE ENTERTAINS.

Mrs. H. Edward Manville of 125 East Seventy-second street gave a luncheon yesterday, her guests including Messrs. Oliver Harris, Hiram S. Redmond, J. Rich Steers, Donn Barber, Hays Brooke, George F. D. Leth and Charles Dillingham.

## SOCIAL NOTES.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Reid Frazee are passing the winter in Vienna. In the spring they will tour by automobile through Czechoslovakia.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pearsall will sail to Washington to-day to be guests of the Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. William Payne Meredith, who will give a dance to-night for their daughter, Mrs. F. O. Bohen of Des Moines, Iowa.

## PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

### NEW YORK.

For the home for Destitute Blind Mrs. John E. Alexander, Mrs. Morton L. Schwartz, Mrs. John R. Drexel, Mrs. J. Newbold Morris and Mrs. James L. Banks. They arranged an afternoon dance in the Colony Club on December 12 for girls not yet out in society and young men of their circle.

Mrs. William A. Prime, accompanied by her young daughter, will sail on board the Aquitania on December 14 to pass the winter in Cannes, where they will be joined by Mr. Prime next month.

Mrs. Ellen Huntington Hooker will introduce to society her daughter, Miss Barbara Ferry Hooker, at a luncheon on January 3 in her home, 907 Fifth Avenue. Miss Hooker is a sophomore at Vassar.

Mrs. Edmund Randolph gave a dinner and dance last night in the Colony Club for her debutante daughter, Miss Ellen Randolph.

Mrs. Edmund L. Bayliss will return from Europe this week. Lord and Lady Traven will arrive from England in a few days.

Miss Marion M. Kemp, who recently arrived from Rome, is at the Regis. Others there include Mr. and Mrs. W. Thorne Kissel of October House, Peapack, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Everett Gibbs of Baltimore, Mrs. Robert Gould Shaw 2d of Boston, and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin B. Pool of Chicago are at the Plaza.

Mrs. Robert Olyphant will give a reception this afternoon at the Colony Club for her daughters-in-law, Mrs. Robert M. Olyphant and Mrs. Donald Olyphant.

Chevalier Del' Ordre Leopold D. B. Fidanque, Belgian Consul at Panama, is at the Traymore, Atlantic City, for a short rest.

Mrs. Cass Gilbert of 42 East Sixty-fourth street will give a small dance to-night for her daughters, Mrs. Charles M. Post and Miss Emily F. Gilbert.

Mrs. Frederic Jennings Parsons will come to New York from Brooklyn, Mass., to pass the Christmas holidays with her sisters, Mrs. William M. Y. Hoffman and Mrs. Stuart Duncan.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver De Lancey Coster have returned from Tenby, N. J., to their apartment at Sixty-second street and Park avenue.

Mrs. John M. L. Rutherford of Tuxedo Park is passing a few days at the Vanderbilt Hotel.

Mrs. Frederic E. Lewis has returned to 23 West Fifty-second street from Ridgefield, Conn.

Mr. and Mrs. Newbold Le Roy Edgar are passing a few days at Tuxedo Park, N. Y.

Lord Leverhulme entertained at dinner last night at the Plaza.

Mrs. John Hall McCullough is in Paris.

Mr. Perry Tiffany, grandson of Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry, has presented an historic candlestick to the United States Naval Academy. It is elaborately constructed of Oriental design, and was presented to Commodore Perry by merchants of Shanghai and Hongkong.

The director of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, Col. E. Lester Jones, and Mrs. Jones announced yesterday the engagement of their daughter, Miss Elizabeth Jones, to Mr. Stanley T. Barker of Cambridge, Mass. Mr. Barker is the son of Dr. and Mrs. E. S. Barker.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Hans Zimmerman and Miss Charlotte Frulin, daughter of Dr. T. A. Frulin, of Holland. Mr. Zimmerman formerly was an attaché of the Netherlands Legation in Washington.

Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, wife of the Vice-President, assisted by wives of Senators, gave a novel luncheon yesterday for Mrs. Harding, wife of the President-elect.

Mrs. Wilson entertained in a box at the Philadelphia Orchestra concert yesterday. The guests included Messrs. J. S. J. Borden Harriman and Clarence A. Riedel.

One time Ambassador to France, Mrs. Henry White have arrived in Washington and are at the home of his son, Mr. John C. White, in Nineteenth street.

The French Ambassador J. J. Jusserand and Mrs. Jusserand were among the chief guests at a dinner which the Polish Minister and Princess Lubomirski gave last evening.

Yesterday afternoon session of the Robert Parler sale of books at Anderson's brought \$11,106. The high bid was made by Dr. A. S. W. Rosenberg, \$2,650 for the only copy known of Richard Haskins' "Strange and Wonderful Things," London, 1858. R. C. Manning gave \$510 for a collection of 56 volumes of "The Elzevir Republics."

At night the total was \$14,870, making the grand total for the sale \$48,948.

## \$48,948 FOR PARISER BOOKS.

At the American Art Galleries yesterday the closing sale of English lustre and other ware of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries belonging to Robert Gilchrist brought \$17,079.

W. W. Seaman, agent, paid \$775 for three Staffordshire lustre ware of the eighteenth century and \$440 for an Anglo-American Sunderland lustre ware bowl, also eighteenth century.

## TO AID HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

An exhibition of hand crafts from the occupation therapy department of Montefiore Home and Hospital will be held at the Community Studios, 124-130 East Fifty-ninth street beginning to-day and ending December 15. The use of occupation for its curative value was successfully demonstrated during the war, and is rapidly being extended into civil hospitals.

Christmas Cards and Calendars

DUTTON'S  
681 Fifth Avenue

## MISS TROUTMAN, ACTRESS, AND WALDO PEIRCE WED IN PARIS

Second Marriage Abroad for  
American Painter of Bat-  
tle Scenes.

Word was received yesterday from Paris of the marriage there last week of Miss Ivy Troutman, well known actress, and Waldo Peirce, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melton Chamberlain Peirce of Bangor, Me. Miss Troutman, who spent several years in Paris during the war in the Y. M. C. A. service, returned home after the armistice and resumed acting in "His Chinese Wife," seen last spring at the Belmont Theatre. Miss Troutman, however, retired from the company before it reached New York and early last summer went to Paris. She was in the original cast of "Baby Mine," playing opposite Miss Marguerite Clark. Later she was with Miss Julia Arthur in "Saramonde," and then associated herself with the "Y."

Miss Troutman was born in Long Branch, but educated in Raleigh, N. C., where her parents moved when she was a child. She made her first professional appearance at Wallack's in "The Last Appeal" in April, 1902, and later acted with E. H. Sothern, Miss Amelia Bingham, William H. Crane, John Mason and Mme. Simone.

Waldo Peirce was graduated from Harvard, and during the war served in the ambulance service abroad. He now is an artist in Paris. He first married Miss Dorothy Rice of this city, who also is well known to the Society for the Suppression of Unnecessary Noises. Miss Rice met Mr. Peirce at a studio she opened in Madrid in May, 1910, and they were married at the Spanish capital on September 5, 1912.

The first Mrs. Peirce obtained a divorce in Bangor on April 27, 1918. At the time he was painting battle scenes with the French army. He was in the Government, from whom he received the Croix de Guerre for meritorious service. His first wife was the first licensee of the French army, and he was in the army and navy and operation of the selective service law during the war. Proceedings were brought against her under title 3 of the espionage law.

Just what the circumstances of delay are, except the change in Districts Attorneys in a jurisdiction where it seems to be a matter of keeping a man on the job to handle the law is not known. It seems, however, that the Stokes case, like a number of other difficult actions and decisions, will be passed along to the new Administration of the District Attorney.

Unless a new trial is set before March 4, the Republican Attorney-General will have to act as Attorney-General Palmer and all of his principal assistants will resign at the end of the year.

Senator Harding is inaugurated. Mr. Stokes was arrested by Department of Justice agents for alleged statements and was held in custody to interfere with enlistments in the army and navy and operation of the selective service law during the war. Proceedings were brought against her under title 3 of the espionage law.

NOTABLES PAY LAST TRIBUTE TO STETSON

Funeral of Noted Lawyer in Church of the Incarnation.

Men of prominence in the business and professional life of New York went to the Church of the Incarnation at Madison avenue and Thirty-fifth street yesterday afternoon to pay the last respects to Francis Lynde Stetson, lawyer, who died last Sunday in his home, 4 East Seventy-fourth street.

The funeral service was conducted by Bishop Charles S. Brannan, assisted by Rev. Dr. J. J. Stetson, rector of the church. The burial is to take place to-day in Williamstown, Mass.

Following the coffin to the church, where it rested amid beautiful floral offerings, were the honorary pallbearers, fourteen of Mr. Stetson's associates in the profession of law, including Messrs. C. Robbins of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and the Rev. Dr. Percy Still, rector of the church. The burial is to take place to-day in Williamstown, Mass.

There were other matters. New York city composers were heard. Daniel Gregory Mason contributed his "Clouds" and "Gull of Texas." Turkey was good in straw or cranberry sauce, in Texas or New York. It is encouraging to see native talent devoting itself to the glorification of cowboy music. Why not give us also some artistic decoration of the spirit of the times, "Slow and Easy," or some other live topic? Verily the art goes gayly forward.

NOTES OF THE THEATRES.

Special matinees for children at the Longacre Theatre, Christmas week, arranged by the National Children's School, will have as attractions "The Princess Wingham," one act play by Anna Fellows, and "The Fairy Dolls," pantomime by Kenneth Hawley Goodman, and posed reproductions from famous plays.

Miss Zena Gale, author of "Miss Lulu Bett," here for rehearsals of the play she made for the first time, the guest of honor at the "Book and Play Luncheon" at the Baltimore to-day, the first of a series of "Book and Play Luncheons" to be given by Emma P. Mills. Heywood Brown will speak on Miss Gale's book. Other speakers will be William L. G. Brown, Edwin Blackman, Alexander Black and Henry Litchfield.

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A party of officers of the U. S. S. Cutler and their families will be the tonight's performance of "When We Are Young" at the Broadway Theatre.

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William Harris, Jr., has arranged with Robert Milton to stage "The Bronx Express" at the Woodville Theatre in English this season.

Hugo Rosenfeld will be the host to fifty boys from Probationary Public School 20 on Broadway street, at a Christmas afternoon's showing of "Hottelotte" at the Rialto.

"One Life for Another," by Teret Hirsch, read by the author, will be presented next week at the Jewish Art Theatre.

Miss Alice Delany, now starring in "At the Altar," will be the featured attraction yesterday for two years on the furnished house at 53 East Fifty-first street.

At the Apollo Theatre, to her sister, "Fagan," in which Wilner and Rosenberg are starring Miss Irene Fenwick, Joseph Shieroff and Miss Helen Ware, will be the Symphonie Theatre in Boston next week.

Los Caritos, Spanish dancers in "Spanish Love at Night" at the Apollo Theatre, have been placed under a two-year contract by Wagners and Kemper.

The casting of Big Brothers' annual performance for their welfare activities will take place at the Hippodrome December 26.

Miss Belle Christy, prima donna at the Hippodrome, will be the featured attraction in the anti-tuberculosis Christmas seals on Fifth Avenue near the Public Library.

## AMONG THE PLAYGOERS.

At last night's performance of "Tiptop" at the Globe Theatre were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shearson, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Biddle, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Horden, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Witherspoon Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Henry, Mrs. Lee and Miss Marguerite De Mulval.

Mr. and Mrs. James Moes and Mrs. William T. Cornell saw "Hitchy-Ko" at the New Amsterdam Theatre to-night.

At the Hippodrome to see "Good Times" were Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Reed and Mr. and Mrs. John C. Jenkins.

The audience for "Enter Madame" at the Fulton were Messrs. John Van S. Oddie, W. Strother Jones, Samuel B. Clarke and Cornelius N. Bliss.

"The Half Moon" at the Liberty Theatre was seen by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Hahn and Mr. and Mrs. William Stone Miller.

The programme consisted of three trios: "Rehearsal," one of the two in opera 70, dating from 1509; Ravel's in a minor and Edward Schuetz's in a minor, designated as "Fair Tales in Form of Waltzes." The three players were in the most comfortable form and played with their customary tonal beauty and finish.

CARUSO GUEST OF BOHEMIANS.

Enrico Caruso will be the guest of honor of the Bohemians, musicians' club, in the Biltmore, Sunday evening, December 26, at a musicale, dinner and dance. The London String Quartet will play. Franz Kneisel is president. The toastmaster will be Robin Goldmark.

## MRS. STOKES MAY ESCAPE A RETRIAL

Action by Department of Justice  
in Espionage Case Mys-  
teriously Delayed.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.  
Washington, Dec. 7.

Government action in the case of Rose Pastor Stokes will be put off until next March and possibly forever, it was learned here authoritatively to-day. Some mysterious circumstance is delaying action by the Department of Justice looking to a retrial of the case.

Mrs. Stokes was convicted of violation of the Espionage act under the United States District Court at Kansas City, Mo., and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Appeal was taken and the Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the judgment of the lower court. The then District Attorney at Kansas City moved for a new trial, noting exception to the instructions of Judge Arba E. Van Valkenburgh of the Appeals Court, contending that his instructions were responsible for the verdict.

District Attorneys have changed twice in Kansas City since that time, out of no motion has been made for setting a new trial. Meantime Mrs. Stokes is out on bail.

The Department of Justice it was said the delay in the case was due to the changes of District Attorneys and inability of the office of new officials there to prepare a new government prosecution.

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## MAJOR WILLIAM P. KITTS.

Major William Penn Kitts, who was retired from the United States Army a year ago, died Monday in the home of his father in Maywood, N. J. He was 46 years old. During the war he was attached to the Inspector General's staff, and later to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and assigned as inspector of divisions forming for overseas duty. He served in the Spanish war as a Second Lieutenant of the Forty-second United States Infantry, stationed in the Philippines. He also served on the Mexican border.

## JOSEPHINE HALL.

Word was received here yesterday of the death Sunday afternoon of Josephine Hall, well known on the stage many years ago. She died in the home of her sister, Mrs. Eugene Chewsbury, in Apponaug, a sister of an actor of eight months. She had a prominent part in "The Girl From Paris" and later in "The Girl From Maxim's." A song with which her name was associated was "Sister Mary Jane's Top Note."

## JOHN HENRY ABBEG.

Word was received yesterday of the death in Geneva, Switzerland, Saturday of John Henry Abegg, formerly president of the American Red Cross in Geneva during the war. Since then he had been engaged in philanthropic activities and in charity work.

## REV. ALEXANDER K. LENT.

The Rev. Alexander K. Lent, Wesleyan clergyman, who worked weeks days as iron moulder and on Sunday died without charge the pulpit of the quaint little "Pond Lily Church" in Broad street, Peekskill, N. Y., died Monday in his home in Peekskill.

## DR. CHARLES G. HECKERT.

Springfield, Ohio, Dec. 7.—The Rev. Dr. Charles G. Heckert, 57 years old, president emeritus of Wittenberg College, died to-day at his home in this city. Heart disease was the cause of death.

## GEORGE S. RICE DIES; NOT END AS ENGINEER

Former Transit Commissioner.  
He Had Charge of Brook-  
lyn Subway.

George Staples Rice, division engineer of the Public Service Commission in charge of subway construction in Brooklyn and formerly Transit Construction Commissioner, died yesterday in his home in Montclair, N. J.

In the half century that Mr. Rice had been engaged in engineering work, he had held positions of high responsibility. He was chief engineer of the Croton aqueduct and helped in formulating the plans for the first Interborough subway. When William Barclay Parsons retired as chief engineer of the New York Rapid Transit Commission in 1904 Mr. Rice was appointed his successor and he later became Transit Construction Commissioner.

Born in Boston, February 28, 1849, Mr. Rice was graduated from the engineering school at Harvard University in 1870. During his later days in college he obtained work in the engineering department of the Boston water works and on graduation became assistant to the chief engineer. In that capacity he had charge of the construction of several miles of tunnel running to the Chestnut Hill reservoir.

From 1880 to 1887 Mr. Rice engaged in mining engineering in Colorado and Arizona. He later returned to this city and became deputy chief engineer of the Aqueduct Commission, which capacity he retained until 1891, when he went to Boston to act as chief engineer of the Rapid Transit Commission